REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application. Claims 1, 7, 10, 21, 23, 26, and 28 are amended. New claim 35 is added. Claims 1-35 are pending in this application.

35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,535,639 to Uchihachi et al. (hereinafter "Uchihachi"). Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-34 are not anticipated by Uchihachi.

Uchihachi is directed to automatic video summarization using a measure of shot importance and a frame-packing method (see, Title). The summary is generated by segmenting the video into its component shots and still frames or key frames are associated with each shot (see, col. 5, lines 5-10). The shots are labeled with importance, and the importance value can be subjected to a threshold to select a desired number of shots, and hence key frames for a summary (see, col. 5, lines 16-18). The video summary can be on paper (see, col. 9, lines 21-26) or rendered to a hypertext form (see, col. 10, lines 1-5). A user could generate a video summary by clicking a name of the video in a listing or a functionally equivalent expression, and various parameters, such as size and the number of frames in the summary can be specified in the request (see, col. 10, lines 5-9). A user can skim through a content of a video by looking at a summary, and begin going in detail by clicking at any of the frames in the summary which is a trigger for a video to be played back from a position or segment of the video corresponding to the frame clicked on (see, col. 10, lines 23-27).

12 Application No. 09/498,439

PAGE 14/24 * RCVD AT 3/26/2004 1:14:00 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/0 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:509 323 8979 * DURATION (mm-ss):06-00

With regard to amended claim 1, amended claim 1 recites:

> A system comprising:
> a client computer to,
>> provide skimming level selection information to a user based on a plurality of available skimming levels, and
>> receive a skimming level selection from the user; and
> a server computer, coupled to the client computer, to,
>> receive the skimming level selection from the client computer,
>> use a playlist of multimedia content corresponding to the skimming level selection, the playlist identifying segments, corresponding to the skimming level selection, of the multimedia content, and
>> provide, to the client computer in response to receipt of the skimming level selection from the client computer, the segments of the multimedia content identified by the playlist.

Applicant respectfully submits that Uchihachi does not disclose or suggest a system with a server computer to provide, to the client computer in response to receipt of the skimming level selection from the client computer, the segments of the multimedia content identified by the playlist as recited in amended claim 1.

As discussed above, Uchihachi discusses that a user could generate a video summary by clicking a name of the video in a listing or a functionally equivalent expression, and various parameters, such as size and the number of frames in the summary can be specified in the request. The user can then skim through a content of a video by looking at a summary, and begin going in detail by clicking at any of the frames in the summary which is a trigger for a video to be played back from a position or segment of the video corresponding to the frame clicked on. Thus, in Uchihachi a video segment is played back to the user in response to the user clicking on a frame of the summary. In contrast, in amended claim 1, the segments of the multimedia content identified by the playlist are provided to the

13   Application No. 09/498,439

PAGE 15/24 * RCVD AT 3/26/2004 1:14:00 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/0 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:509 323 8979 * DURATION (mm-ss):06-00

client computer in response to receipt of the skimming level selection from the client computer. Applicant respectfully submits that there is no discussion or suggestion in Uchihachi of providing segments of media content identified by a playlist to the client computer in response to receipt of the skimming level selection from the client computer as recited in amended claim 1.

Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 1 is allowable over Uchihachi.

Given that claims 2-6 depend from amended claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-6 are likewise allowable over Uchihachi for at least the reasons discussed above with regard to amended claim 1.

With regard to amended claim 7, amended claim 7 recites:

> A method for providing a skimmed version of multimedia content, the method comprising:
> accessing first skimming information corresponding to a first skimming level of a plurality of previously generated skimming levels of the multimedia content;
> using the first skimming information to access a first plurality of segments of the multimedia content that correspond to the first skimming level; and
> forwarding the first plurality of segments to a client computer.

Applicant respectfully submits that Uchihachi does not disclose or suggest accessing first skimming information corresponding to a first skimming level of a plurality of previously generated skimming levels of the multimedia content as recited in amended claim 7.

As discussed above, in Uchihachi a user could generate a video summary by clicking a name of the video in a listing or a functionally equivalent expression, and various parameters, such as size and the number of frames in the summary can

be specified in the request. The generated summary is then sent back to the client for display in a web browser or printed in paper form (see, col. 10, lines 9-15). In contrast, in amended claim 7, the plurality of skimming levels of the multimedia content are previously generated skimming levels. As Uchihachi discusses that the user can specify various parameters, such as size and the number of frames in the summary, Applicant respectfully submits that Uchihachi does not disclose or suggest previously generated skimming levels as recited in amended claim 7.

Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 7 is allowable over Uchihachi.

Given that claims 8-13 and 15 depend from amended claim 7, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 8-13 and 15 are likewise allowable over Uchihachi for at least the reasons discussed above with regard to amended claim 7.

With regard to claim 14, claim 14 depends (indirectly) from amended claim 7 and Applicant respectfully submits that claim 14 is allowable over the cited references at least because of its dependency on amended claim 7. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that Uchihachi does not disclose or suggest the identifying and forwarding as claimed in claim 14.

Claim 14 recites:

> A method as recited in claim 10, wherein the forwarding of the second plurality of segments comprises:
> identifying a current presentation time of the first plurality of segments;
> identifying a time in the second plurality of segments that corresponds to the current presentation time; and
> forwarding the second plurality of segments to the client computer starting with the time in the second plurality of segments that corresponds to the current presentation time of the first plurality of segments.

Applicant respectfully submits that there is no disclosure or suggestion in Uchihachi of identifying a current presentation time of a first plurality of segments, identifying a time in a second plurality of segments that corresponds to the current presentation time, and forwarding the second plurality of segments to the client computer starting with the time in the second plurality of segments that corresponds to the current presentation time of the first plurality of segments as recited in claim 14.

As discussed above, Uchihachi discusses that a user could generate a video summary by clicking a name of the video in a listing or a functionally equivalent expression, and various parameters, such as size and the number of frames in the summary can be specified in the request. The user can then skim through a content of a video by looking at a summary, and begin going in detail by clicking at any of the frames in the summary which is a trigger for a video to be played back from a position or segment of the video corresponding to the frame clicked on. Uchihachi discusses being able to select play back of video to begin from a position or segment of the video corresponding to a frame clicked on by the user, not identifying a time in a second plurality of segments that corresponds to a current presentation time as identified from a first plurality of segments, and forwarding the second plurality of segments to the client computer starting with the time in the second plurality of segments that corresponds to the current presentation time of the first plurality of segments as recited in claim 14. Applicant respectfully submits that there is no discussion whatsoever in Uchihachi of identifying a presentation time at which forwarding of a second plurality of

lee@hayes pllc 509-324-9256   16   Application No. 09/498,439

PAGE 18/24 * RCVD AT 3/26/2004 1:14:00 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/0 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:509 323 8979 * DURATION (mm-ss):06-00

segments should start, the presentation time having been identified based on a first plurality of segments as recited in claim 14.

Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 14 is allowable over Uchihachi.

With regard to claim 16, claim 16 recites:

> A method for storing skimmed versions of multimedia content, the method comprising:
> identifying, for each of a plurality of skimming levels, a plurality of segments of the multimedia content; and
> storing, for each of the plurality of skimming levels, skimming information identifying the plurality of segments.

Applicant respectfully submits that Uchihachi does not disclose or suggest the identifying and storing as recited in claim 16.

As discussed above, in Uchihachi a user could generate a video summary by clicking a name of the video in a listing or a functionally equivalent expression, and various parameters, such as size and the number of frames in the summary can be specified in the request. The generated summary is then sent back to the client for display in a web browser or printed in paper form (see, col. 10, lines 9-15).

In contrast, in claim 16 a plurality of segments of multimedia content are identified for each of a plurality of skimming levels, and, for each of the plurality of skimming levels, skimming information identifying the plurality of segments is stored. Applicant respectfully submits that there is no discussion in Uchihachi of storing, for each of a plurality of skimming levels, skimming information identifying the plurality of segments for the skimming level. Although Uchihachi discusses that a user could generate a video summary, Uchihachi does not discuss generating and storing information identifying multiple video summaries.

Lee@hayes p.   507-324-9256   17   Application No. 09/498,439

PAGE 19/24 * RCVD AT 3/26/2004 1:14:00 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/0 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:509 323 8979 * DURATION (mm-ss):06-00

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Uchihachi does not disclose or suggest storing, for each of a plurality of skimming levels, skimming information identifying the plurality of segments for the skimming level as recited in claim 16.

Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 16 is allowable over Uchihachi.

With regard to claim 17, claim 17 depends from claim 16 and Applicant respectfully submits that claim 17 is allowable over the cited references at least because of its dependency on claim 16. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that Uchihachi does not disclose or suggest wherein the storing comprises storing the skimming information identifying the plurality of segments in a same data structure as the multimedia content is stored in as claimed in claim 17.

As discussed above with regard to claim 16, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no disclosure or suggestion in Uchihachi of storing, for each of the plurality of skimming levels, skimming information identifying the plurality of segments. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no discussion in Uchihachi of storing any such skimming information in a same data structure as the multimedia content is stored in as claim in claim 17. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that Uchihachi does not disclose or suggest the method of claim 17.

Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 17 is allowable over Uchihachi.

With regard to claim 18, claim 18 depends from claim 17 and Applicant respectfully submits that claim 18 is allowable over the cited references at least because of its dependency on claim 17. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully

18 Application No. 09/498,439

PAGE 20/24 * RCVD AT 3/26/2004 1:14:00 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/0 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:509 323 8979 * DURATION (mm-ss):06-00

submits that Uchihachi does not disclose or suggest storing, in the same data structure as the multimedia content is stored in, an indication of how many skimming levels comprise the plurality of skimming levels as claimed in claim 18.

As discussed above with regard to claim 18, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no disclosure or suggestion in Uchihachi of storing, for each of the plurality of skimming levels, skimming information identifying the plurality of segments, much less of storing any such skimming information in a same data structure as the multimedia content is stored. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that nowhere does Uchihachi discuss storing an indication of how many skimming levels comprise the plurality of skimming levels, much less of storing that indication in the same data structure as the multimedia content is stored in. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that Uchihachi does not disclose or suggest the method of claim 18.

Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 18 is allowable over Uchihachi.

Given that claims 19-20 depend from claim 16, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 19-20 are likewise allowable over Uchihachi for at least the reasons discussed above with regard to claim 16.

With regard to amended claim 21, Applicant respectfully submits that, similar to the discussion above regarding amended claim 7, Uchihachi does not disclose or suggest accessing first skimming information corresponding to a first skimming level of a plurality of previously generated skimming levels of the multimedia content as recited in amended claim 21.

19

Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 21 is allowable over Uchihachi.

Given that claims 22-25 depend from amended claim 21, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 22-25 are likewise allowable over Uchihachi for at least the reasons discussed above with regard to amended claim 21.

With regard to amended claim 26, Applicant respectfully submits that, similar to the discussion above regarding amended claim 7, Uchihachi does not disclose or suggest receiving an identifier of a skimming level selected from a plurality of previously generated skimming levels, and accessing skimming information corresponding to the identified skimming level as recited in amended claim 26.

Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 26 is allowable over Uchihachi.

Given that claims 27-29 depend from amended claim 26, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 27-29 are likewise allowable over Uchihachi for at least the reasons discussed above with regard to amended claim 26.

With regard to claim 30, Applicant respectfully submits that, similar to the discussion above regarding claim 16, Uchihachi does not disclose or suggest skimming logic to maintain a plurality of streams of skimming information corresponding to multimedia content, each of the plurality of streams identifying a plurality of segments of the multimedia content, and a storage device, coupled to the skimming logic, to store the plurality of streams of skimming information as recited in claim 30.

Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 30 is allowable over Uchihachi.

Given that claims 31 and 33 depend from claim 30, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 31 and 33 are likewise allowable over Uchihachi for at least the reasons discussed above with regard to claim 30.

With regard to claim 32, claim 32 depends from claim 31 and Applicant respectfully submits that claim 32 is allowable over the cited references at least because of its dependency on claim 31. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that, similar to the discussion above regarding claim 17, Uchihachi does not disclose or suggest wherein the storage device further stores both the multimedia content and the plurality of streams of skimming information in a same data structure as recited in claim 32.

Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 32 is allowable over Uchihachi.

With regard to claim 34, Applicant respectfully submits that, similar to the discussion above regarding claim 16, Uchihachi does not disclose or suggest one or more computer-readable media having stored thereon a data structure, comprising a first data field containing data representing a first skimming level corresponding to multimedia content and a second data field containing data representing a second skimming level corresponding to the multimedia content as recited in claim 34.

Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 34 is allowable over Uchihachi.

Applicant respectfully requests that the §102 rejections be withdrawn.